

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Dr. Charity Flores, Director of Assessment

Date: July 8, 2020

Subject: Guidance Protocol

SB 346 directs the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) to receive approval prior to providing any guidance to school corporations or schools regarding instructional methods and/or accommodation usage affected by statewide assessments. The protocol in Table 1 is presented to clarify the approval process required by SB 346.

As noted in legislation:

SECTION 5. IC 20-32-5.1-18.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.287-2019, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 18.5. (a) The department shall, to the extent permitted under federal law, provide the same text-to-speech, screenreader, or human reader and calculator accommodations to a student in grades 6 through 12 on every section of the statewide assessment program if that accommodation is provided as part of the student's: (1) individualized education program; (2) service plan developed under 511 IAC 7-34; or (3) choice special education plan developed under 511 IAC 7-49; or (4) plan developed under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794.

(b) The department must submit any guidance or recommendations the department plans to distribute to a school corporation or school that attempts to affect in any manner based on statewide assessment accommodations which instructional methods are included or excluded from a program or plan described in subsection (a) to the state board for approval. (b) (c) This subsection expires January 1, 2020. The state board shall provide a report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, explaining in detail the extent that: (1) individualized education programs; (2) service plans developed under 511 IAC 7-34; or (3) choice special education plans developed under were altered to align to the statewide assessment program.

Sec. 18.5 (a) Requires students who have the following accommodations per their IEP, Section 504, or other formalized plan will be allowed to use the following on state assessments:

- o Calculators will be allowed for **every** section of the statewide assessment programs in grades 6-12
- o Text-to-speech will be allowed for **every** section of the statewide assessment programs in grades 6-12

Sec. 18.5 (b) Requires the Office of Assessment submit to the State Board for approval of any guidance or recommendations on statewide assessment accommodations prior to providing to schools or school corporations.

Table 1. Proposed Protocol for Routing Accommodation Guidance or Recommendations for Review and Approval by the SBOE.

| Guidance Events | Timeframe(s) | Guidance Examples | SBOE Review Cadence |
|---|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Annual Policy Guidance Updates | Annually | Accessibility and Accommodations Guidance Manual | State Board Meeting Consent Approval <i>(Review / Approve)</i> |
| Memos | As Needed | Calculator Updates | State Board Meeting Consent Approval If urgent, State Board staff distributes for review to members <i>(Review / Approve)</i> |
| Emergent Guidance | Immediate Responses for Schools | IIEP Functionality Guidance (IIEP is the platform provided to all schools for the generation and maintenance of Individualized Education Plans) | State Board staff distributes for review to members <i>(Review)</i> |
| Day to Day Oversight and Implementation <i>(e.g. call or email)</i> | Immediate Responses for Schools | Situational Accommodation Guidance (e.g., individual student matter) | IDOE Staff |